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April 3.—Dr. George E. Beard read a paper (with illustrations) on the psychological explanation of the Salem witchcraft excitement, and the practical lessons derived therefrom.

MIDDLESEX INSTITUTE, Feb. 28.—L. L. Dame, president, delivered an instructive lecture—the first in a series of twelve weekly botanical lectures—on the “Growth of the plant from the seed,” to a class of nearly fifty members.

Mar. 7.—Mrs. A. J. Dolbear gave the second in the series, her subject being “Morphology of roots, stems and branches.”

Mar. 8.—President Dame briefly reviewed the first year’s work of the Institute, and made some excellent suggestions in regard to the best manner of carrying on the work which the Institute had undertaken.

The various reports presented a most gratifying exhibit of the condition of the Institute, and its future as a permanent scientific educational force seems well assured.

Mr. Davenport announced the death of Professor Thomas P. James, an honorary member, and a committee consisting of the president, W. H. Manning and Mr. Davenport was appointed to draw up suitable resolutions of respect to the memory of the deceased.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, March 21.—R. E. Colston delivered an illustrated lecture on modern Egypt and its people, the army of Egypt and the military revolution in progress there. the customs of marriage and divorce, and the condition of women in Mussulman countries.

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SELECTED ARTICLES IN SCIENTIFIC SERIALS.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE, April.—The wings of Pterodactyles, by O. C. Marsh. Sandstones having the grains in part quartz crystals, by A. A. Young. The timber line, by H. Gannett. Notice of Fisher’s “Physics of the Earth’s Crust,” by C. E. Dutton. Great dyke of Foyaite or Elæolite-syenite in North-western New Jersey, by B. K. Emerson. Notice of the remarkable marine fauna occupying the outer banks off the southern coast of New England, by A. E. Verrill.

THE GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, March.—Supplement to a chapter in the history of meteorites, by W. Flight.

JOURNAL OF CONCHOLOGY, Oct. 1881.—Life history of *Helix arbustorum*, by J. W. Taylor.

THE June number of the NATURALIST will be devoted almost exclusively to articles on Evolution. It will contain articles by Morris, Hyatt, Cope, Lockington and others, with reviews of Beale, Bütschli, Loew, Pokorny, Wythe and others.